

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to prevent fraudulent use of a wireless unit that is roaming in a visited system, the method comprising:
- as a part of registration of the wireless unit with a visited mobile switching center (MSC-V) of the visited system, causing the MSC-V to implement denial of originating communication service with respect to the wireless unit;
 - after the registration of the wireless unit with the MSC-V and the denial of the originating communication service with respect to the wireless unit, receiving at the MSC-V a code and identification information from the wireless unit;
 - in response to the receipt of the code, causing the MSC-V to transmit a message including the identification information to a verification element functionally connected to the visited system and a home system of the wireless unit;
 - in response to receipt of the message, causing the verification element to carry out a verification of the identification information;
 - in response to making a positive verification, causing the verification element to transmit a response to the MSC-V, the response including the positive verification; and
 - based on the positive verification received in the response, causing the MSC-V to remove the denial of the originating communication service with respect to the wireless unit, thereby initiating the communication service with respect to the wireless unit,
- wherein prior to receiving at the MSC-V the code and the identification information from the wireless unit, the method further comprises:
- receiving at the MSC-V a call attempt from the wireless unit; and
 - causing the MSC-V in response to the call attempt to provide the wireless unit with an announcement.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the response including the positive verification comprises origination/termination service information; and

wherein the method further comprises:

causing the MSC-V to update information the MSC-V retains in a visitor location register (VLR) relating to the wireless unit with the origination/termination service information; and

after removal of the denial of the originating communication service with respect to the wireless unit, causing the MSC-V to provide communication services to the wireless unit based on the origination/termination service information.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the message including the identification information comprises a feature request message, and wherein the identification information comprises a personal identification number (PIN); and

wherein causing the MSC-V to transmit a message comprises causing the MSC-V to transmit the feature request message including the PIN to the verification element.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein the response comprises a feature request response; and

wherein causing the verification element to transmit a response to the MSC-V comprises causing the verification element to transmit a feature request response to the MSC-V.

5. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 51, wherein the announcement comprises an instruction to the wireless unit to dial the code and provide the identification information.

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7. (Currently Amended) A system to prevent fraudulent use of a wireless unit that is roaming in a visited system, the system comprising:

- a visited mobile switching center (MSC-V) operative
 - to carry out a registration of the wireless unit in the visited system,
 - to implement, after the registration, denial of originating communication service with respect to the wireless unit,
 - to receive, after the denial, a code and identification information in a call from the wireless unit;
 - to recognize the code as a feature request with respect to a network element, and
 - to route a feature request message including the identification information to the network element;
- the network element operative in response to receipt of the identification information to provide a verification in a feature request response to the MSC-V, the network element being functionally connected to the visited system and a home system of the wireless unit; and
- the MSC-V also operative to remove the denial if the verification comprises a positive verification,

wherein, after the registration of the wireless unit with the visited system and prior to the denial of originating communication service to the wireless unit, the MSC-V is operative to receive a call attempt from the wireless unit, and in response to the call attempt, is operative to provide an instruction to the wireless unit to dial the code and provide the identification information.

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8. (Original) The system of Claim 7 wherein the feature request response from the network element comprises origination/termination service information with respect to the wireless unit;

- wherein the MSC-V comprises a visitor location register (VLR) including information relating to the wireless unit; and
- wherein the MSC-V is operative to update the information in the VLR with the origination/termination service information.

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9. (Original) The system of Claim ⁷8, wherein, after the removal of the denial, the MSC-V is operative to provide communication services to the wireless unit based on the origination/termination service information.

10. (Cancelled)

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11. (Withdrawn) A method to prevent fraudulent use of a wireless unit roaming in a visited system, comprising:
locking the wireless unit prior to a registration of the wireless unit;
performing a first authentication process to unlock the wireless unit;
in response to unlock of the wireless unit, carrying out the registration of the wireless unit in the visited system including validation of the wireless unit with a home system of the wireless unit; and
performing, in response to the registration, a second authentication process implementing a denial of originating communication service to the wireless unit.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:
in response to a positive verification of identification information received from the wireless unit during the second authentication process, providing the originating communication service to the wireless unit.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, further comprising:
receiving a call attempt from the wireless unit; and
in response to the call attempt, providing an announcement to the wireless unit.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 13, wherein the announcement comprises an instruction to the wireless unit to dial a code and provide identification information.

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15. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, wherein performing a first authentication process comprises entering a personal identification number to unlock the wireless unit.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 11, wherein performing a second authentication process comprises performing the second authentication process during a predetermined time or during a plurality of predetermined times.